

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-6, 10-19, 21, 23-25, and 31-38 are pending. Claims 14-19, 21, 23-25 and 34 are withdrawn. Claims 1, 4-6, 10-13, 31-33, and 35-38 are rejected.

Claims 1, 4-6, 10-12, 31-33, and 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jadamus (US 6,428,866) and “Encyclopedia of Polymer Science and Technology” Pallmer, R.J. ed. John Wiley & Sons, New York 2001, vol. 3, pgs. 618-642 (Pallmer). Similarly, claims 13 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Jadamus in view of Pallmer and further in view of Hegler (US 3,538,209).

The Examiner relies on Pallmer as evidence that the percentage of amide groups attached to aromatic rings is a result effective variable. Particularly, the Examiner states that “Pallmer teaches that nylons (polyamides) containing aromatic monomers tend to have increased stiffness by virtue of the greater rigidity of the chains,” citing to page 625 of Pallmer. Furthermore, the Examiner alleges that it is obvious to vary the quantity of aromatic monomers present in the polyamide and thereby optimize barrier properties and strength.

The Examiner has not established that varying the *amount* of aromatic monomers present in the polyamide bears any connection to the percentage of amide groups attached to aromatic ring in *the chemical structure* of the aromatic polyamide. The claimed feature *explicitly* claims “at least 50% of the amide groups are attached to aromatic rings” and makes no reference to the percentage of aromatic monomers present in the polyamide. Instead, the claimed feature is directed to the chemical structure of the aromatic polyamide, and claims that within the chemical structure at least 50% of the amide groups are attached to aromatic rings.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any extensions of time or additional fees and credit any overpayments.

Respectfully submitted,

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